



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

Subject: 2006 Annual U.S./Europe International Aviation Safety Conference

Dear Fellow Aviation Safety Professional:

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the 2006 Annual U.S./Europe International Aviation Safety Conference in Portland, Oregon, from June 6-8, 2006. As in previous years, this conference is co-chaired by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), and the Joint Aviation Authorities (JAA).

Last year, we set our sites on the future and focused on identifying and discussing the trends and developments that will affect future aviation safety regulation. This year, we wish to turn our attention to one critical element – making our processes more efficient and reflective of the global nature of aviation. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that this year's conference theme is, *"Global Aviation Safety Processes: Refining, Reinforcing, and Streamlining."*

In a rapidly changing aviation environment, we must find a balance between industry's demands for service and the authorities' ability to provide it. We cannot let our processes become obstacles to more safety enhancements or commercial initiatives. There are things we can do better to minimize the overlap and duplication among our various aviation systems. This year's conference is an excellent opportunity to share best practices and think creatively about ways to address this challenge.

The conference will be three days, including a plenary day and two days of workshops. We have added a 90-minute "Hot Topics" roundtable with the FAA/EASA/JAA senior management team at the end of the first day. *Note: We request that you submit questions for this roundtable in advance, and we invite you to send your questions via email to: 9-awa-air-easa@faa.gov.*

Our workshops are being organized under the following three categories:

- The Global Environment,
- Process Streamlining, and
- U.S./E.U. Feedback Forum.

The full conference agenda will be available shortly.

Similar to last year, this year's conference will be paperless. All information on the conference, including the agenda, registration instructions/forms, hotel information, and information on Portland, can be found at: http://www.faa.gov/news/conferences/2006_us_europe_conference/. As the date of the conference approaches, all conference material will also be posted on this website. We also have set up a special email address where you may send any questions regarding this conference. The email address is: 9-awa-air-easa@faa.gov.

I encourage you to register early for the conference. Both conference registration and hotel reservations are made using a single form. This year, there are two ways to register:

- 1) Register online: Access the conference registration website at address above. Click on the online registration link. *Online registration is recommended.*

OR

- 2) Access the conference website, click on the registration link and download the Conference Registration and Hotel Reservation Form. Fax the form to Expo Logic, Inc. at 1-610-328-1548 (The FAA has contracted with Expo Logic to assist with registration.)

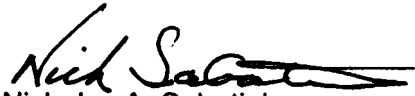
All hotel room reservations should be made, through the conference registration process, **prior to May 19, 2006**. Reservations made after that date will be accepted on a space available basis only.

Please note that this year's conference registration fee is US\$285. This fee will be charged by the Portland Marriott upon your arrival at the conference. As in past years, the conference registration fee includes conference materials as well as daily breakfast and lunch.

NOTE: It is important for our foreign visitors requiring visas to begin this process promptly. The U.S. State Department has strengthened its review of visa applicants. In some cases, personal interviews will be required prior to the issuance of a U.S. visa. Conference attendees from countries requiring entrance visas to the United States need to start planning early to ensure participation in the conference.

I hope to see you in Portland.

Sincerely,



Nicholas A. Sabatini

Associate Administrator for
Aviation Safety